



## VISUAL ART DISPLAY AND ACQUISITION POLICY

### Purpose

To establish standards and guidelines for the temporary exhibit, acquisition and gift of a work of visual art including paintings, photography, sculpture, or other works of art for the Washington County Library System.

- I. Any art offered for exhibition, gift, commission, or acquisition must be deemed to be artistically appropriate for exhibit in the public libraries. The library art committee will be comprised of members of the Library Board of Directors, the Library Director, and board-appointed members of the community to act as art consultants. The committee will initially review any offer of or solicitations for works of art and recommend to the Library Board whether it should be accepted. Works of art should not be accepted or acquired unless there is a determined need for it and the means for protecting and caring for it. Works of art should reflect the practical considerations of quality, durability, ease of maintenance, public safety, appropriateness, including scale, material, form, and content. The work must be able to be sustained in the libraries non-museum settings.
- II. An evaluation of proffered works of art at the owner's convenience may be requested. By mutual agreement, the owner may bring the work of art to the library for examination. The library will not be responsible for the safety or damage to any work of art offered while in transit or on the library premises.
- III. Because the libraries do not have storage or warehouse facilities, an exhibit space in the library proper must be available at the time of the receipt of the work of art.
- IV. The library reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to re-assess the advantage of retaining works of art in its permanent collections from time to time, and may dispose of works of art by sale, auction, gift, or any other means it deems appropriate. Gifts should be given if possible, without restrictions. However, outstanding work should not be declined because of restrictions which are deemed reasonable.

Adopted by the Washington County Library Board January 27, 2009